

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL ATTACHÉ

Shanghai  
January 20, 1932

Dear Miller:

FEB 16 1932

1114-23

Shanghai Photographic Views.

Referring to my letter of December 17 entitled "China Views" and to the letter of Mr. R. W. Grant, Editor, Exporters and Importers Journal as also to Mr. Croghan's letter of October 15, I am now sending copies of the following photographs of buildings in Shanghai:

1/

File: Theaters - 1

1. The Kwong Hwa Cinema Theatre - Chinese talkie house using predominantly American films.

2. The Isis theatre, a popular Chinese talkie theatre in Shanghai.

3.) The Hongkew Cinema which caters to the Chinese public, using American films.

File: Theaters - 2

4.) Willies Theatre, Chinese talkie house, using American films almost entirely.

" " - 3

6. The Ritz, a newly constructed Chinese motion picture theatre for talkies, using Chinese and American films.

7. The Nanking Theatre, one of the most popular talkie theatres in Shanghai, with an artificial cooling system, seating capacity of about 2500 and using American films almost exclusively.

File: Theaters - 4

8. Cathay talkie theatre, one of the most recently completed, catering mostly to foreign audiences and using predominantly American films.

9. Capitol theatre which is reputed to have the best acoustics of any of the 25 movie houses in Shanghai.

10. A Shanghai street scene showing some of the electric signs.

File: advertising - 1

11. A scene on Bubbling Well Road, showing modern advertising of the China Realty Company, an American real estate concern. The sign is outlined in electric



lights at night and is typical of modern advertising on the principal streets of Shanghai.

12. One of the scores of filling stations in Shanghai. The Standard Oil Company, The Texas Company, and the Asiatic Petroleum Company all maintain numerous filling stations in this business emporium.

*File: city, town scenes - 7*

13. The Chinese Y. M. C. A. of Shanghai.

*File: hotels - 6*

14. The Cathay Hotel in Shanghai.

*File: city, town scenes - 7*

15. Portion of the Bund or waterfront, Shanghai, showing The Cathay Hotel, The Palace Hotel, The Chartered Bank, and the Bank of China, the latter having taken over what was formerly the German Club.

*File: housing - 8*

16. The Embankment House, an apartment facing on Soochow creek in the center of the business section.

*File: " - 9*

17. Cathay Mansions, one of the large apartment houses which is opposite the French Club in Shanghai.

18. The Cathay Theatre in the foreground and the Cathay Mansions in the background.

*File: city, town scenes - 7*

19. The Foreign Y. M. C. A. (American) which is located on Bubbling Well Road facing the Public Recreation Park. In the foreground there is under construction at present a 22 story apartment house, opposite which a new motion picture theatre will soon be erected.

20. An apartment building on a business street with shops on the lower floor.

21. Same as 20.

22. The Savoy Apartments in the residential section of Shanghai.

*File: housing - 10*

23. Rivers Court, a residential apartment.

*" " 11*

24. Jessfield Apartments, Shanghai.

25. The International Savings Society Apartments in the residential section of Shanghai.

*File: housing - 12*

26. A typical Shanghai apartment.

27. A Shanghai apartment building.

*File: building materials & operations - 13*

28. One of a score or more new apartment buildings in course of construction in Shanghai.



29. Same as 28.

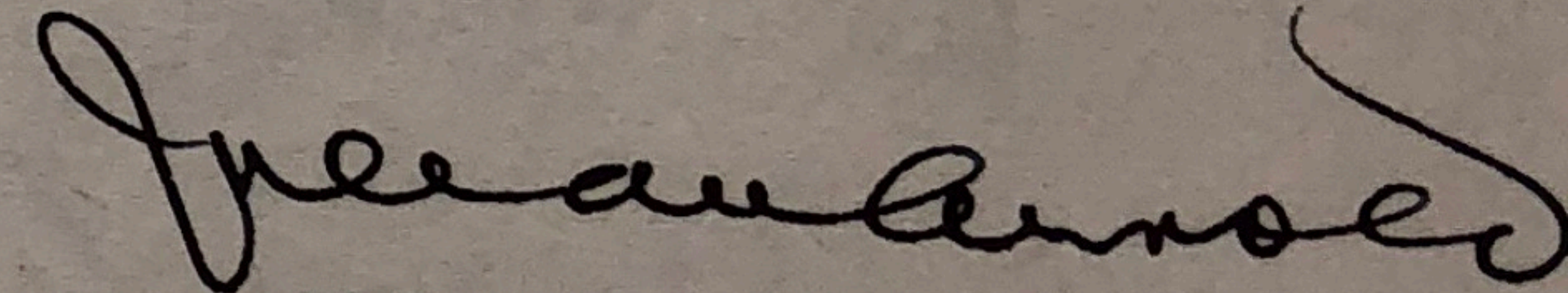
30. Note the bamboo protection about the scaffolding in use in the construction of buildings in Shanghai.

31.) Note the twigs at the tops of the scaffolding surrounding a building under construction. This is a common practise among Chinese contractors and builders in keeping with the superstition that the air above a two story building is the rightful abode of the spirits and any encroachments thereon will be resented by the spirits to the detriment of those guilty of the encroachment. Thus, the putting up of twigs on the ends of the scaffold is presumed to produce the appearance of a forest and fool the spirits into believing the scaffolding is a cluster of trees until after the roof is on the house when it is safe against the penetration of evil spirits.

33. Southern Methodist Church facing the Public Recreation Ground, Shanghai. This is the church of which Chiang Kai-Shek, outstanding political figure in China, is a member.

I am sending these pictures in duplicate for such use as the Bureau may see fit to make of them.

Very truly yours,



Julean Arnold  
Commercial Attache

Mr. Walter Miller, Chief  
Foreign Service Division  
Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce  
Washington, D. C.  
Inclosure 20995 ✓

*File: bldg. operations  
materials - 14*